

Behavioral Health Oversight Commission
Charter and Strategic Focus
August 11, 2008

CHARTER: The Behavioral Health Oversight Commission shall be responsible to the ~~Department~~Division of ~~Health and Human Services (DHHS)~~Behavioral Health (DBH) and shall oversee and support implementation of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act. ~~This~~The Commission will provide advice and assistance to ~~DHHS~~DBH regarding promotion of: (i) the interests of consumers and their families;ⁱ (ii) recovery;ⁱ and, (iii) consumer involvement in ~~all aspects of implementation~~ of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act. This Commission will provide a strategic vision for behavioral health for the State of Nebraska recognizing limited resource availability, ~~while at the same time, creating and the importance of~~ an environment of recovery for all behavioral health consumers.

1. Behavioral Health Overview

How are services delivered? How are funds being used to increase community-based services and reduce reliance on Regional Centers?

- a. State Overview
- b. Regions' Overview
- c. Regional Center Overview (perhaps description by Region since each uses it differently)
- d. Consumer

2. Moving Behavioral Health Forward

Now that LB 1083 is being implemented, how does the behavioral health system continue to move forward fostering recovery for behavioral health consumers? What should a balanced Nebraska behavioral health system look like?

- a. What should the service array be and are there "gaps"?
- b. What is the role of the Regional Centers?
- c. What is the role of peer support services?
- d. Examine consumer involvement
- e. How do we measure outcomes?
- f. How do we move to performance-based contracting and oversight?
- g. Examine integration of all funding toward helping consumers access services—recognizing mental health, substance abuse and possibly gambling addiction.

3. Behavioral Health Workforce Shortage

There is a behavioral health workforce shortage nationally and in the state of Nebraska. There is an inadequate number of psychiatrists and other mental health and substance abuse professionals to provide necessary services to consumers. Education and training are needed to grow the workforce.

- a. Collaborate with private, government and academic partners to investigate ways to cultivate a workforce, funding, and incentives for growing the behavioral health workforce.

4. Enhanced Communication and Partnering

Foster, encourage and promote creative ways to serve consumers maximizing existing funding, using open communication and developing trusting relationships by promoting partnerships and two-way communication among Department of Health and Human Services, the Behavioral Health Regions, Regional Centers, Community-Based Agencies and consumers.